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## NEWS RELEASE

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### STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT AWARDS

Local communities will benefit from nearly \$3.9 million in equipment to enhance response capabilities across the state through the State Homeland Security Grant. The Utah Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security will begin dispersing the grants to seven regional response teams and statewide explosive ordinance disposal teams immediately.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness provided the fiscal year 2003 grant. This grant replaces the U.S. Department of Justice Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) grant the state has received for the past three years. The new grant also includes funds for planning, training and exercises at the state level.

“Distributing the equipment grant through regional teams maximizes response capabilities statewide,” said Utah Public Safety Commissioner Robert Flowers. “It allows local jurisdictions to prioritize needs regionally and work together to enhance public safety.”

Coordinating committees have been meeting to determine needs and response strategies in each region. These committees will determine what equipment is purchased for that region. Equipment purchased through the grant is specific to terrorism/WMD prevention, response, detection and mitigation.

An advisory board, with representatives from the Utah National Guard, law enforcement, fire, health, emergency management and private industry, worked with the division to determine a formula for distribution based on population and the number of counties in each region. See the attached list for funding distribution.

-ATTACHMENT-

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## **State Homeland Security Grant Distribution**

- ❖ Region I (Box Elder, Cache, Davis, Morgan, Rich, Weber) - \$891,139
- ❖ Region II (Salt Lake County, Summit, Tooele, Utah, Wasatch) - \$1,679,816
- ❖ Region III (Juab, Millard, Piute, Sanpete, Sevier, Wayne) - \$339,187
- ❖ Region IV (Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, Washington) - \$375,005
- ❖ Region V (Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah) - \$177,584
- ❖ Region VI (Carbon, Emery) - \$122,989
- ❖ Region VII (Grand, San Juan) - \$113,960
- ❖ Statewide Explosive Ordinance Disposal Teams - \$194,720